

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 12

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2003 Regular Session
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By: **Senators McFadden, Conway, Della, Gladden, Hughes, and Jones**
Constitutional Requirements Complied with for Introduction in the last 35 Days of
Session
Introduced and read first time: March 14, 2003
Assigned to: Rules

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **State of Emergency in the Baltimore City School System**

3 FOR the purpose of urging the governing bodies of Baltimore City, the State of
4 Maryland, and the United States to declare the Baltimore City school system in
5 a state of emergency; and urging the governing bodies of Baltimore City, the
6 State of Maryland, and the United States to provide financial aid to alleviate the
7 conditions that led the Baltimore City school system to its current state.

8 WHEREAS, The Baltimore City school system and its schools are in a
9 deplorable and hazardous condition; and

10 WHEREAS, Many schools in Baltimore City are contaminated with high
11 concentrations of lead in the drinking water, necessitating the transporting of
12 alternate water supplies to the schools; and

13 WHEREAS, The school system needs money for facility construction, repair, and
14 restoration; and

15 WHEREAS, The school system already has a \$31 million deficit, largely due to
16 insufficient federal, State, and local funding; and

17 WHEREAS, Hazardous physical conditions and lack of funding to improve such
18 conditions do not provide a safe and conducive environment for learning or academic
19 achievement and success; and

20 WHEREAS, In a natural or human-created disaster, the federal and state
21 governments provide financial assistance in many forms to the community and
22 individuals affected by the disaster; and

23 WHEREAS, The Baltimore City school system is in an academic and physical
24 state of emergency; now, therefore, be it

25 **RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND**, That the Mayor
26 and City Council of Baltimore City, the Governor and the General Assembly of the
27 State of Maryland, and the United States Congress are respectfully urged to declare

1 the Baltimore City school system in a state of emergency and to provide financial aid
2 to the school system to alleviate the conditions that led the school system to its
3 current state; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
5 Legislative Services to the Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor of Maryland;
6 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
7 the Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
9 Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.
10 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;
11 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger III, Benjamin L.
12 Cardin, Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E.
13 Cummings, and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., House Office Building, Washington,
14 D.C. 20515; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
16 Legislative Services to the Honorable Martin J. O'Malley, Mayor of Baltimore City,
17 City Hall, Room 250, 100 North Holliday Street, Baltimore, MD 21202; the members
18 of the Baltimore City Council: Sheila Dixon, Stephanie C. Rawlings, John L. Cain,
19 Nicholas C. D'Adamo, Jr., Lois A. Garey, Paula Johnson Branch, Bernard C. Young,
20 Robert W. Curran, Kenneth N. Harris, Sr., Lisa Joi Stancil, Keiffer Jackson Mitchell,
21 Jr., Catherine E. Pugh, Agnes B. Welch, Helen L. Holton, Rochelle Spector, Kwame
22 Osayaba Abayomi, Edward L. Reisinger, and Melvin L. Stukes, City Hall, 100 North
23 Holliday Street, Baltimore, MD 21202; the New Baltimore City Board of School
24 Commissioners: J. Tyson Tildon, Ph.D., Colene Y. Daniel, C. William Struever, Camay
25 C. Murphy, Dorothy G. Siegel, Samuel C. Stringfield, Ph.D., Kenneth A. Jones, David
26 J. Stone, and Patricia L. Welsh, Ph.D., 200 East North Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland
27 21202; and Carmen V. Russo, Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore City
28 Department of Education, 200 East North Avenue, Room 405, Baltimore, Maryland
29 21202.